Continuous Optimization (II) constrained

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Categorization



- Categorization of continuous optimization
 - Unconstrained optimization
 - Linear
 - Nonlinear
 - Constrained optimization
 - Linear programming
 - Nonlinear programming

Categorization



Unconstrained optimization:

$$\boldsymbol{x}^* = \min f(\boldsymbol{x})$$

subject to $x \in \Omega$,

where
$$\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n$$
.

- Constrained optimization:
 - feasible set is the form of functional constraints.

$$\Omega = \{ x : h(x) = 0, g(x) \le 0 \}.$$

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- Linear programming
- Nonlinear programming: equality constraints
 - Method of Lagrange Multiplier
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 - Lagrangian Dual Problem
 - KKT Conditions
 - Example: constrained optimization problem
- Projection-type methods
- Penalty-type methods

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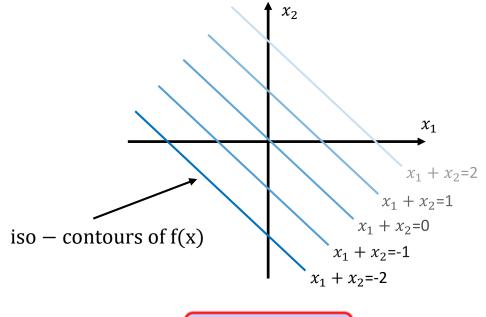
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Linear programming



- Linear programming (1940s):
 - The objective function and all of the constraints are affine.
 - That is, $a^T x + b, a \in R^n, b \in R$
 - For reference, linear functions are in the form of $a^T \mathbf{x}$. i.e., b = 0

maximize $\mathbf{c}^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{x}$ subject to $A\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{x} \geq \mathbf{0}$



$$f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 + x_2$$

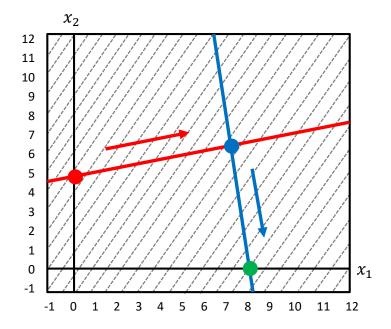
Linear programming



• Linear programming (1940s):

Ex) minimize
$$f(x) = 3 \cdot x_1 - 1.5 \cdot x_2$$

subject to $-0.3 \cdot x_1 + x_2 \le 5$
 $6.25 \cdot x_1 + x_2 \le 50$



Methods for Constrained Optimization



- A certain class of algorithms for solving constrained optimization problems.
 - Penalty method: replaces a constrained optimization problem by a series of unconstrained problems whose solutions ideally converge to the solution of the original constrained problem. Penalizing any violation of the constraints.

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in R^{n}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

$$subject to \ h_{i}(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \ i = 1, ..., m$$

$$g_{i}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \ j = 1, ... p.$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in R^{n}} q_{k}(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + c_{k} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} h(\mathbf{x})^{2} + \sum_{j=1}^{p} \max(0, g_{j}(\mathbf{x}))^{2} \right)$$

- Barrier method (Interior point method): a barrier penalty term that prevents the points generated from leaving the feasible region is added to the objective function.
- Lagrange multipliers methods: next slides



- The method of Lagrange multipliers is a strategy for finding the local maxima and minima of a function subject to equality constraint.
- Consider an optimization problem $maximize \ f(x)$ $subject \ to \ h(x) = 0.$
- We need both f and h to have continuous first partial derivatives.
- Define the Lagrangian as $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mu) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \mu h(\mathbf{x})$

Then \mathbf{x}^* a local minimum \iff there exists a unique μ^* s.t.

$$\nabla_{\mu}\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mu^*) = 0$$
 \Rightarrow the equality constraint $h(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$

3
$$\mathbf{y}^t(\nabla^2_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mu^*))\mathbf{y} \ge 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{y} \text{ s.t. } \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}h(\mathbf{x}^*)^t\mathbf{y} = 0$$

Positive definite Hessian tells us we have a local minimum

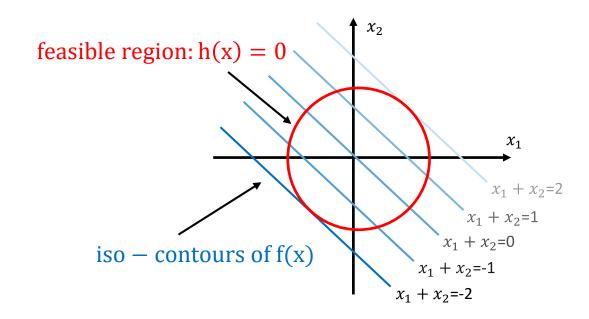


• Example (1/6)

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x})$$
 subject to $h(\mathbf{x}) = 0$

where

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1 + x_2 \text{ and } h(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2$$

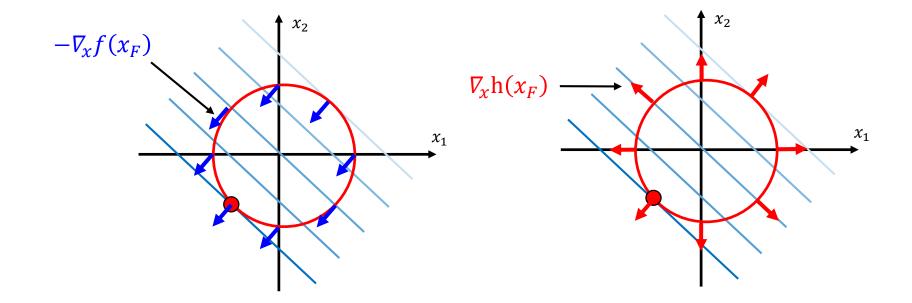




• Example (2/6)

Lagrangian
$$L({\pmb x},\mu) = f({\pmb x}) + \mu h({\pmb x}) = x_1 + x_2 + \mu(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2)$$

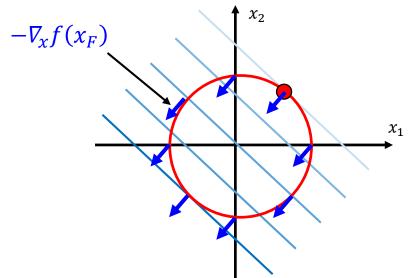
$$-\nabla_{\pmb x} f({\pmb x}^*) = \mu^* \nabla_{\pmb x} h({\pmb x}^*)$$

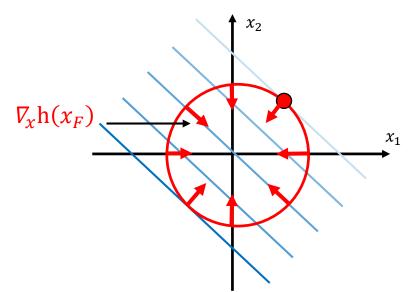




• Example (3/6)

$$-\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mu^* \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} h(\mathbf{x}^*)$$

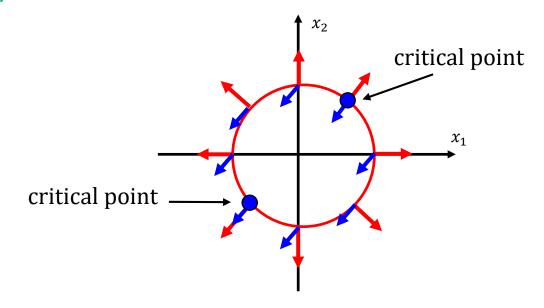




Note the direction of the normal is arbitrary as the constraint be imposed as either h(x) = 0 or -h(x) = 0



• Example (4/6)



A constrained local optimum occurs at x^* when $\nabla_x f(x^*)$ and $\nabla_x h(x^*)$ are parallel that is

$$-\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mu^* \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} h(\mathbf{x}^*)$$



• Example (5/6)

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_1} = 1 + 2\mu x_1 = 0, \quad \rightarrow x_1 = -\frac{1}{2\mu}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_2} = 1 + 2\mu x_2 = 0, \quad \rightarrow x_2 = -\frac{1}{2\mu}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu} = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{4\mu^2} + \frac{1}{4\mu^2} = 2$$

$$\therefore \mu^* = \pm \frac{1}{2}.$$

For
$$\mu = \frac{1}{2}$$
, $x_1 = x_2 = -1$,

For
$$\mu = -\frac{1}{2}$$
, $x_1 = x_2 = 1$.



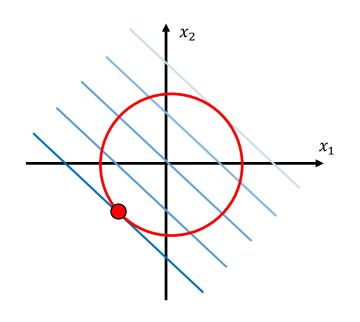
• Example (6/6)

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} L_{x_1 x_1} & L_{x_1 x_2} \\ L_{x_2 x_1} & L_{x_2 x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\mu & 0 \\ 0 & 2\mu \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 for $\mu = 1/2$, Positive definite

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for } \mu = -1/2,$$

Thus,
$$\boldsymbol{x}^* = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
.





Nonlinear programming: inequality constraints

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Consider the following nonlinear problem P, which we call the primal problem:

P:
$$\mathsf{p*=} = \min_x f(x)$$
 s.t. $g_i(x) \leq 0, \quad i=1,\ldots,m$ $x \in \Omega$ Lagrangian function: $L(x,u) := f(x) + u^T g(x)$ Dual function: $L^*(u) := \min_x f(x) + u^T g(x)$ s.t. $x \in \Omega$ Dual problem: D: $\mathsf{d*=} = \max_u L^*(u)$

s.t. $u \ge 0$



- Theorem: The dual function $L^*(u)$ is a concave function.
- Proof: Let $u_1 \geq 0$ and $u_2 \geq 0$ be two values of the dual variables, and let

$$u = \lambda u_1 + (1 - \lambda)u_2, \text{ where } \lambda \in [0, 1]. \text{ Then}$$

$$L^*(u) = \min_{x \in P} f(x) + u^T g(x)$$

$$= \min_{x \in P} \lambda \left[f(x) + u_1^T g(x) \right] + (1 - \lambda) \left[f(x) + u_2^T g(x) \right]$$

$$\geq \lambda \left[\min_{x \in P} f(x) + u_1^T g(x) \right] + (1 - \lambda) \left[\min_{x \in P} (f(x) + u_2^T g(x)) \right]$$

$$= \lambda L^*(u_1) + (1 - \lambda) L^*(u_2) .$$

Therefore we see that $L^*(u)$ is a concave function.



Concave functions

Definition 3.12 A function f(x) is a concave function if

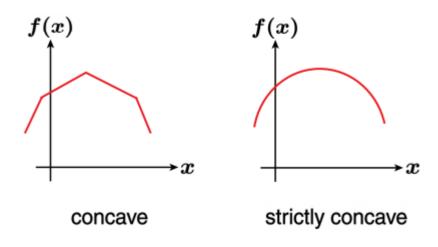
$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \ge \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$$

for all x and y and for all $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

Definition 3.13 A function f(x) is a strictly concave function if

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) > \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y)$$

for all x and y, $x \neq y$, and for all $\lambda \in (0,1)$.





Discussion

- The Lagrangian is affine for all x.
- The dual is a concave maximization problem.
- See the example next slide.

Lagrangian function:
$$L(x, u) := f(x) + u^T g(x)$$

Dual function:
$$L^*(u) := \min_x f(x) + u^T g(x)$$

s.t.
$$x \in \Omega$$

Dual problem: D:
$$\max_{u} L^*(u)$$

s.t.
$$u \ge 0$$



- Example
 - Transforms equality constraints into unconstrained problem.

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 6x_1x_2$$

s.t. $g(\mathbf{x}) = 3x_1 + 4x_2 = 18$.

$$L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + ug(\mathbf{x}) = 6x_1x_2 + u(3x_1 + 4x_2 - 18)$$

$$\partial L/\partial x_1 = 6x_2 + 3u = 0, \tag{a}$$

$$\partial L/\partial x_2 = 6x_1 + 4u = 0, \tag{b}$$

$$\partial L/\partial u = 3x_1 + 4x_2 - 18 = 0. \tag{c}$$



- Example (continued)
 - First of all, let us check if the dual function $L^*(u)$ is concave.

Since
$$x_2 = -\frac{1}{2}u$$
, $x_1 = -\frac{2}{3}u$

$$L^*(u) = 6\left(-\frac{2}{3}u\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}u\right) + u\left(3\left(-\frac{2}{3}u\right) + 4\left(-\frac{1}{2}u\right) - 18\right)$$

$$= 2u^2 - 4u^2 - 18u = -2u^2 - 18u$$
. Concave!



- Example (continued)
 - Second, find minimizers.

thus
$$x_1^* = 3$$
, $x_2^* = \frac{9}{4}$.



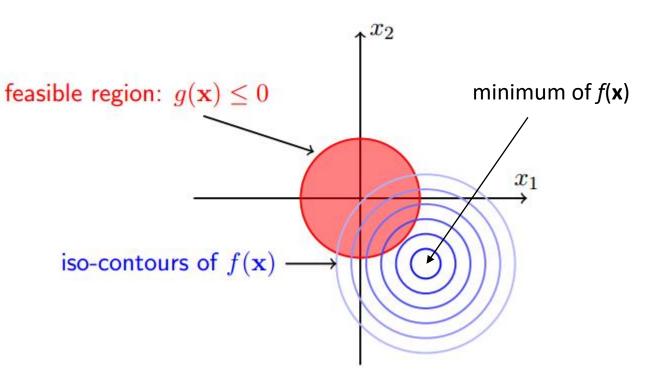
- For an optimization problem with differentiable objective and constraint functions, for which strong duality holds, we can derive a set of necessary conditions for optimality, known as the Karuch-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions.
- If strong duality holds and x^* , (λ^*, v^*) are a primal- and a dual-optimal solution, relatively, then it holds the KKT conditions.



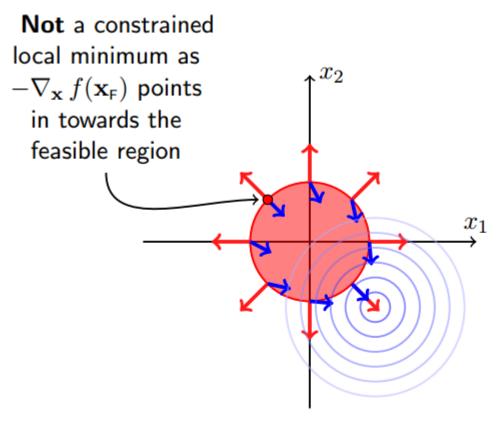
$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x})$$
 subject to $g(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$

where

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1 - 1.1)^2 + (x_2 - 1.1)^2$$
 and $g(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1$







 \therefore Constrained local minimum occurs when $-\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$ and $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} g(\mathbf{x})$ point in the same direction:

$$-\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} g(\mathbf{x})$$
 and $\lambda > 0$



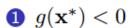
Given

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x})$$
 subject to $g(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$

If x^* corresponds to a constrained local minimum then

Case 1:

Unconstrained local minimum occurs **in** the feasible region.



$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$$

3 $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}^*)$ is a positive semi-definite matrix.

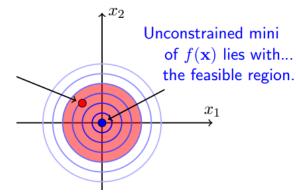
Case 2:

Unconstrained local minimum lies **outside** the feasible region.

$$g(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{2} & -\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \, f(\mathbf{x}^*) = \lambda \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \, g(\mathbf{x}^*) \\ \text{with } \lambda > 0 \end{array}$$

3 $\mathbf{y}^t \nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} L(\mathbf{x}^*) \mathbf{y} \ge 0$ for all \mathbf{y} orthogonal to $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} g(\mathbf{x}^*)$.





Given the optimization problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x})$$
 subject to $g(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$

Define the **Lagrangian** as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda g(\mathbf{x})$$

Then \mathbf{x}^* a local minimum \iff there exists a unique λ^* s.t.

- $\mathbf{0} \ \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*) = \mathbf{0}$
- **2** $\lambda^* \ge 0$
- **4** $g(\mathbf{x}^*) \le 0$
- **5** Plus positive definite constraints on $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*)$.

These are the KKT conditions.



KKT for multiple equality & inequality constraints

Given the constrained optimization problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x})$$

subject to

$$h_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$
 for $i = 1, \dots, l$ and $g_j(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$

Define the Lagrangian as

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}^t \, \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\lambda}^t \, \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$$

Then \mathbf{x}^* a local minimum \iff there exists a unique $\boldsymbol{\lambda}^*$ and $\boldsymbol{\mu}^*$ s.t.

- **2** $\lambda_{j}^{*} \geq 0$ for j = 1, ..., m
- **3** $\lambda_j^* g_j(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0 \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, m$
- **4** $g_i(\mathbf{x}^*) \leq 0$ for j = 1, ..., m
- **6** $h(x^*) = 0$
- 6 Plus positive definite constraints on $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \boldsymbol{\lambda}^*)$.



Note that

- Under differentiability and constraint qualifications, the Karush– Kuhn–Tucker (KKT) conditions provide necessary conditions for a solution in nonlinear programming to be optimal.
- Under convexity, these conditions are also sufficient.



Nonlinear programming: others

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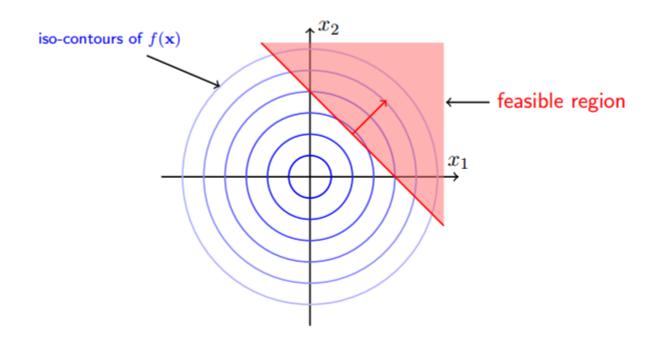


Solve this constrained optimization problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} f(\mathbf{x}) = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2} .4 \left(x_1^2 + x_2^2 \right)$$

subject to

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = 2 - x_1 - x_2 \le 0$$





Solution 1: Using KKT conditions

The Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = .4 x_1^2 + .4 x_2^2 + \lambda (2 - x_1 - x_2)$$

The KKT conditions say that at an optimum $\lambda^* \geq 0$ and

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*)}{\partial x_1} = .8 x_1^* - \lambda^* = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*)}{\partial x_2} = .8 x_2^* - \lambda^* = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^*, \lambda^*)}{\partial \lambda} = 2 - x_1^* - x_2^* = 0$$



Solution 1: Using KKT conditions (continued)

Find $(x_1^*, x_2^*, \lambda^*)$ which fulfill these simultaneous equations. The first two equations imply

$$x_1^* = \frac{5}{4}\lambda^*, \qquad \qquad x_2 = \frac{5}{4}\lambda^*$$

Substituting these into the last equation we get

$$8 - 5\lambda^* - 5\lambda^* = 0 \implies \lambda^* = \frac{4}{5} \leftarrow \text{greater than 0}$$

and in turn this means

$$x_1^* = \frac{5}{4}\lambda^* = 1,$$
 $x_2^* = \frac{5}{4}\lambda^* = 1$



Solution 2: Using Lagrangian dual function

Construct the Lagrangian dual function

$$q(\lambda) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) = \min_{\mathbf{x}} (f(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda g(\mathbf{x}))$$

Find optimal value of x wrt $\mathcal{L}(x, \lambda)$ in terms of the Lagrange multiplier:

$$x_1^* = \frac{5}{4}\lambda, \qquad \qquad x_2^* = \frac{5}{4}\lambda$$

Substitute back into the expression of $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x},\lambda)$ to get

$$q(\lambda) = \frac{5}{4}\lambda^2 + \lambda\left(2 - \frac{5}{4}\lambda - \frac{5}{4}\lambda\right)$$

Find $\lambda \geq 0$ which maximizes $q(\lambda)$. Luckily in this case the global optimum of $q(\lambda)$ corresponds to the constrained optimum

$$\frac{\partial q(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} = -\frac{5}{2}\lambda + 2 = 0 \implies \lambda^* = \frac{4}{5} \implies x_1^* = x_2^* = 1$$

Projection-type methods



- Projection-type methods address the problem of optimizing over convex sets.
 - A convex set \mathcal{C} is a set such that

$$\theta x + (1 - \theta)y \in \mathcal{C}$$
,

for all
$$x, y \in \mathcal{C}$$
 and $0 \le \theta \le 1$.

Projection-type methods use the projection operator,

$$P_{\mathcal{C}}(x) = \arg\min_{y \in \mathcal{C}} \frac{1}{2} ||x - y||^2.$$

For non-negative constraints, this operator is simply

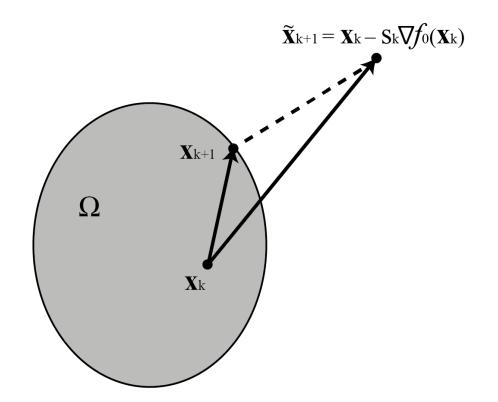
$$x = \max\{0, x\}.$$

Projection-type methods



• The most basic projection-type method is *gradient projection*.

$$x_{k+1} = P_{\mathcal{C}}(x_k - \alpha_k \nabla f(x_k)).$$





- Penalty-type methods re-write as an unconstrained problem, e.g.
 - Penalty method for equality constraints: Re-write

$$\min_{c(x)=0} f(x),$$

as

$$\min_{x} f(x) + \frac{\mu}{2} ||c(x)||^{2}.$$



- Penalty-type methods re-write as an unconstrained problem, e.g.
 - Penalty method for equality constraints: Re-write

$$\min_{c(x)=0} f(x),$$

as

$$\min_{x} f(x) + \frac{\mu}{2} ||c(x)||^{2}.$$

Penalty method for inequality constraints: Re-write

$$\min_{c(x)\geq 0} f(x),$$

as

$$\min_{x} f(x) + \frac{\mu}{2} || \max\{0, c(x)\}||^{2}.$$

These converge to the original problem as $\mu \to \infty$.



Minimize
$$x_1^2 + x_2^2$$

s.t. $x_1 + x_2 - 1 = 0$.

- 1. By the method of Lagrange multiplier, the optimal solution is (1/2, 1/2) and has the objective value 1/2.
- 2. Now consider the penalty problem

Minimize
$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \mu(x_1 + x_2 - 1)^2$$

$$x_1 + \mu(x_1 + x_2 - 1) = 0$$
$$x_2 + \mu(x_1 + x_2 - 1) = 0.$$

$$x_1 = x_2 = \mu/(2\mu + 1).$$

Thus, the optimal solution of the penalty problem can be made arbitrarily close to the solution of the original problem by choosing μ sufficiently large.



Selecting the penalty parameter

$$\min \Phi_k(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \mu_\mathsf{k} \; \sum_{i \in I} \; g(c_i(\mathbf{x}))$$

- Start with a relatively small value of μ .
- Subsequently, solve a sequence of unconstrained problems with monotonically increasing values of μ chosen so that the solution to each new problem is "close" to the previous one.

Table A1. Sequence of Solutions Using the Penalty Method

k	μ	<i>x</i> ₁	x_2	<i>g</i> ₃
0	_	6.00	7.00	6.00
1	0.5	4.50	5.50	3.00
2	1	4.00	5.00	2.00
3	2	3.60	4.60	1.20
4	4	3.33	4.33	0.66
5	8	3.18	4.18	0.35
6	16	3.09	4.09	0.18
7	32	3.05	4.05	0.09
8	64	3.02	4.02	0.04

References



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